

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims as indicated below:

1. (Previously Presented) An injection molding method, comprising the steps of:
 - providing a mold having a mold cavity formed therein;
 - locating an electrical circuit within said mold cavity, wherein said electrical circuit comprises electrical components assembled to an electrical circuit board prior to any molding operations thereof;
 - configuring said mold to provide a mold form geometry that permits a plurality of components to be connected electrically to said electrical circuit and an associated latch mechanism after said injection molding of said plastics material into said mold cavity;
 - configuring said mold form geometry to comprise at least one gap in which an additional component can be located; and
 - injection molding a plastics material into said mold cavity of said mold to produce a latch component, wherein said plastics material covers and seals said electrical circuit to provide insulation and environmental protection to said electrical circuit.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
 - integrating said latch component within a latch mechanism, wherein said electrical circuit communicates electrically with said latch mechanism.
- 3-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
 - 2 wherein the latch component comprises ~~configuring said mold form geometry~~
~~to possess at least one plastic mounting surface feature.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 wherein the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry~~
~~to possess at least one plastic pivot feature.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry to~~
~~possess at least one plastic flange feature.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 wherein the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry~~
~~to possess at least one plastic seal feature.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— 2 wherein the latch component comprises configuring said mold form geometry~~
~~to possess at least one plastic mating feature.~~

10. (Currently Amended) An injection molding method for electrical circuit, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a mold having a mold cavity formed therein;

locating an electrical circuit within said mold cavity, wherein said electrical circuit comprises electrical components assembled to an electrical circuit board prior to any molding operations thereof;

injection molding a plastics material into said mold cavity of said mold to produce a latch component, wherein said plastics material covers and seals said electrical circuit to provide insulation and environmental protection to said electrical circuit;

integrating said latch component within a latch mechanism, wherein said electrical circuit communicates electrically with said latch mechanism; and

~~configuring said mold to provide a mold form geometry that permits~~electrically connecting a plurality of components ~~to be connected electrically~~ to said electrical circuit and said latch mechanism after said integration of said latch component into said latch mechanism.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said latch mechanism comprises a vehicle door latch of a vehicle door latch assembly.

12-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An injection molding method for electrical circuits, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a mold having a mold cavity formed therein;

locating an electrical circuit within said mold cavity, wherein said electrical circuit comprises electrical components assembled to an electrical circuit board prior to any molding operations thereof;

injection molding a plastics material into said mold cavity of said mold to produce a latch component, wherein said plastics material covers and seals said electrical circuit to provide insulation and environmental protection to said electrical circuit;

integrating said latch component within a latch mechanism, wherein said electrical circuit communicates electrically with said latch mechanism, wherein said latch mechanism comprises a vehicle door latch of a vehicle door latch assembly; and

configuring said mold to provide a mold form geometry that comprises at least one gap in which an additional component can be located; and

~~_____~~, ~~wherein said mold form geometry permits~~ electrically connecting a plurality of components ~~to be connected electrical~~ to said electrical circuit and said latch mechanism after said integration of said latch component into said latch mechanism.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component
comprises at least one plastic mounting surface feature.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component
comprises at least one plastic pivot feature.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component
comprises at least one plastic flange feature.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component
comprises at least one plastic seal feature.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~—— configuring said mold form geometry to possess~~ wherein the latch component
comprises at least one plastic mating feature.